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From: Kevin Sakuda [mailto:kssakuda@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2005 8:09 AM
To: MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov
Subject: MLPAComments: MLPA

Hi~

I am a diver who frequents the Central Coast and considers wise fishery management a priority. For this reason I am very concerned that the current MLPA process may be driven by an agenda that lacks unbiased scientific rationale. It's my understanding that members of the science advisory panel are Packard grant recipients. The fact that Packard money is also partially funding this process tells me that the science panel is bound to arrive at conclusions that do not jeopardize their funding source.

For that reason, I think it is imperative that this process employs scientists who are knowledgeable, as well as detached from such conflicts of interest.

I understand you've been soliciting input from prominent individuals on their top priorities for MLPA, and I'd like to convey mine.

When it comes to siting any proposed marine reserves, it distresses me to consider the already limited access I have as a shore diver being further limited by reserves being located at these points along the coast. Please take the time to listen to scientists who are not beholden to any particular agenda.

Thank you for taking the time to look over my concerns.

Kevin Sakuda
408-640-6429

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